

Deborah Serani, Psy.D.

12 Ivy Hill Drive, Smithtown New York 11787

631.366.4674

Informed Consent for Participation in Telepsychology Treatment

Name: _____ Phone: _____ DOB: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Type of Service Provided:

Telepsychology is a form of psychotherapy for interested individuals who live in New York State - but live too far to do in-office psychotherapy. Psychotherapy via Telepsychology will be accessed between you and me via Doxy.Me - and HIPPA compliant, state of the art Telemedicine service. You will need access to a computer that has a camera and a microphone.

What You Can Expect from Online Treatment:

Just like in-office treatment with me, online Telepsychology will be a session of 45 minutes. We will schedule a weekly time and you will be provided a link to click at our scheduled appointment. Please keep in mind to choose a quiet, private area to engage in Telepsychology. Keep a telephone handy incase our connection experiences technical difficulties.

It is important that you understand that Telepsychology sessions have limitations as compared to in-person sessions, among those being the lack of "personal" face-to- face interactions, the lack of visual and audio cues in the therapy process.

You understand that Telepsychology is not a substitute for medication under the care of a psychiatrist, nurse-practitioner or medical doctor. While our psychotherapy sessions will address social, emotional and personal issues, it may be required for you to consult with a specialist for pharmacotherapy in addition to our work.

You understand that Telepsychology may not be appropriate if you are experiencing a crisis, having suicidal/homicidal thoughts, severe addiction issues or impulse regulation difficulties. If a life-threatening crisis occurs, you agree to contact the National Suicide Hotline at 800-784-2433, call 911, or go to the nearest hospital emergency room. Please be aware that if a crisis develops, I will also help you locate immediate care.

You understand that I follow the laws and professional regulations of the State of New York (USA) and that Telepsychology treatment will be considered to take place in the State of New York (USA).

Confidentiality:

What you and I discuss during our sessions will be kept confidential and private, with some exceptions. If you have intentions of hurting yourself or someone else, I have a "Duty To Warn" to protect your safety and the safety of others.

The HIPPA forms provided will detail how private information about your health care will be protected and under what circumstances they may, if ever, be shared. As mentioned, our Telemedicine communication at Doxy.Me is HIPPA compliant.

If you choose to email me from your personal email account, please limit the contents to basic issues such as cancellation or change in contact information. I will not respond to personal and clinical concerns via regular email.

If you call me, please be aware that unless we are both on land line phones, the conversation is not confidential. Likewise, text messages are not confidential.

I make every effort to keep all information confidential. Likewise, if we are working online together, I ask that you determine who has access to your computer and electronic information from your location. This would include family members, co-workers, supervisors and friends.

I encourage you to only communicate through a computer that you know is safe, i.e., wherein confidentiality can be ensured. And be sure to fully exit all Doxy.Me connections when our sessions are done.

Social Media:

It is important that you and I keep the integrity of our therapeutic working relationship. For this reason, I will not accept any invitations via social networking.

Telephone and Emergency Procedures:

If you need to speak with me about an urgent issue between Telepsychology sessions, please call 631-366-4674. Your call will be returned as soon as possible. Should a life-threatening crisis occur before I am able to contact you, you agree to call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.

Payment for Services:

Payments for Telepsychology must be made prior to the time of each session. Insurance companies and Medicare cover Telepsychology in New York State. You will be provided a link to Paypal - and bill will be provided for you to seek insurance reimbursement. Current fees for Telepsychology are the same as for in-office psychotherapy: \$200.00 per session.

Cancellation policy:

Telepsychology sessions cancelled without providing a 24 hour notice will be billed in-full (if we cannot find another time in that same week to reschedule).

Signature

Date